CLAIMS:

1. An electrophoretic display device displaying to two different directions, comprising:

a plurality of pixels with an electrophoretic medium (7),

each pixel being divided into a first and a second sub-pixel (1; 2),

each pixel being provided with a common electrode (3) extending over the first and second sub-pixel (1; 2),

the first sub-pixel (1) being provided with a first sub-pixel electrode (11) and the second sub-pixel (2) being provided with a second sub-pixel electrode (12).

2. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the first sub-pixel (1) is provided with a first light absorbing layer (21) and the second sub-pixel (2) is provided with a second light absorbing layer (22), the first and second light absorbing layer (21; 22) being provided at opposite sites of the pixels.

3. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the light absorbing layer (21; 22) is provided between the pixels and the electrodes (3; 11, 12).

4. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the light absorbing layer (21; 22) is provided on the electrodes (3; 11, 12) at a side facing away from the pixels.

5. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the light absorbing layer (21, 22) comprises a patterned absorbing material.

6. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the ratio of the effective surface area S_1 of the first sub-pixel (1) and the effective surface area S_2 of the second sub-pixel (2) is in the range from $1 \leq S_1/S_2 \leq 5$.

7. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the electrophoretic medium comprises micro-encapsulated electrophoretic ink.

8. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 7 with one micro-capsule per pixel or with one micro-capsule per sub-pixel.

9. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the micro-encapsulated electrophoretic ink comprises two types of particles (31; 32), the particles (31; 32) always staying in the optical path of the pixels.

10. An electrophoretic display device as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the display device displays a first image on a side of the display device and a second image on an opposite side of the display device, the first and second image being viewable substantially simultaneously.